Open Source Observatory Policy Factsheet

Slovakia

OSOR

1 General Information

Slovakia's public administration is increasingly embracing open source software. Over the past few years, the legal framework has shifted towards mandating software reuse, as well as encouraging wider use of open source in public services. Notable open source initiatives and events, such as PyCon SK and OpenSlava, promote OSS technology and are gaining traction in Slovakia's public sector. Third sector remains a crucial player in both advocating for OSS and its maintenance, with Slovensko.Digital and Spoločnosť pre otvorené informačné technológie as important agents of change. On a municipal level, Bratislava's public administration stands out as a highly innovative entity that utilises open source in its digitalisation efforts.

2 Actors

POLICY MAKERS

The Ministry of Investments, Regional Development and Informatisation (MIRRI) is the actor responsible for the design and implementation of the policies related to digital services for the Slovak government. Actions of the Ministry are implemented by the National Agency for Network and Electronic Services.

STRATEGIC PLAYERS

Most of the open source activity is facilitated by civic associations, namely Slovensko.Digital and SOIT. They implement open source-based digitalisation projects in public administration and advocate for increased transparency and quality of governmental IT services.

3 Policy and Legal Framework

Act 95/2019, 2019

The Act mandates the reuse of software developed by public administration. However, the law has not yielded many reusable components or solutions in-house so far. Most of the openly shared code was supplied by Slovensko.Digital and similar actors.

National Concept of Informatisation of Public Administration, 2021

The 2021 National Concept advises the public administration to increase its usage and free reuse of open source software. The dcoument recognises the cost-saving and interoperability benefits of open source.

2019 — 2021

4 Open Source Software Initiatives

PyCon SK, 2024

PyCon SK is biennial gathering of Python users and developers organised by SPy, the Slovak Python User Group. The association uses the community gathering to pursue its mission of expanding the Slovak and international community of Python programmers. The event also provides an opportunity for the group to connect and inspire one another.

slovensko.sk, 2021

slovensko.sk is Slovakia's central government portal recreated by Slovensko.Digital using an open API. The portal guides users to the correct public e-service and to assist in the use of relevant information resources.

OpenSlava, biennial

OpenSlava is an annual open source IT conference supported by the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava. It focuses on trends and emerging technologies, most recently generative AI.

Návody.Digital, 2018

Návody.Digital is a community project based on an open API that is led by Slovensko.Digital. On the portal, users find clear and interactive instructions on how to handle official matters electronically, empowering citizens to use make use of the digital solutions